

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An image forming process comprising^{es} [ing] the steps of conducting recording on a recording medium provided with an image-receiving layer and laminating a

5 thermoplastic film onto the image-receiving layer to smooth the surface of the thermoplastic film by heating and pressurizing^{device} [means] and to bond the back side of the thermoplastic film onto the image-receiving layer. An image forming apparatus comprises an ink-jet head for

10 conducting recording on a recording medium, a laminating section for laminating a thermoplastic polymer onto a recorded recording medium, and^a heating and pressurizing^{device} [means] for heating and pressurizing the thermoplastic film to smooth the surface and to bond

15 the back side of the thermoplastic film onto the image-receiving layer.